GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:959
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
MISSING MANUSCRIPTS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that rare manuscripts have been found missing from some of the leading museums of the country, especially from Orissa museum as reported in Rashtriya Sahara dated October 5, 2002 under the caption `Orissa Sangrahalaya se 18 Hazar Durlabh Pandulipyan Gayab`;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken against the guilty officers; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) to (d) : The Orissa State Museum is under the administrative control of the State Government.The Government of Orissa has informed that on preliminary verification it was found that as per Accession Register of Manuscripts in the Orissa State Museum, there were 19,250 manuscripts, out of which 19,220 were physically available. The Government of Orissa has already initiated a detailed physical verification of manuscripts. The State Government has taken all precautionary measures including regular verification and supervision of the work to prevent any loss of manuscripts.